

CONSERVATIVE,

AND HOLLY SPRINGS BANNER.

VOL. 1.

HOLLY SPRINGS MI., FRIDAY, JULY 24, 1840.

NO. 18

EDWIN JUNIUS FOSTER,
Editor and Proprietor.

TERMS.

THE CONSERVATIVE.

And Holly Springs Banner is published every week at Four Dollars, which must be paid for in advance, in every case. No subscription will be received for less than six months; nor will any discontinuance be made until all arrearages are paid.

Advertisements will be inserted at one dollar per square, (ten lines or less) for the first time, and fifty cents for each continuance. All advertisements not marked with the number of insertions on the margin, will be inserted and charged accordingly.

Announcing candidates for office \$10 State officers, and \$5 for County officers each, in advance.

Letters addressed to the editor or publisher on business must be post paid in order to secure attention.

Cash will be required for all Job Work done at this office as soon as delivered.

All Communications involving personal allusions, will be (if inserted) charged as an advertisement double price. And must, in all cases, be paid for in advance.

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BILLS OF LADING,
HAND BILLS,
FUNERAL TICKETS,
LABELS &c. and

Blankets of every description.
Holly Springs, Mi., March 16, 1839.

The Gag-Law of Adams, and the Army-Bill of Van Buren.

Who that has read the history of this country, has forgotten the "Alien and Sedition Law" of the elder Adams's administration, and the excitement which it aroused in the nation? The blow which it struck at the freedom of conscience, of speech and of the press, was repelled by popular indignation every where. The whole country was convulsed, and the strong arm of public opinion put forth, to stay the encroachment of Executive usurpation. Its advocates shrunk back from the deformity of their own legislation, and the resolutions of Virginia and Kentucky adopted in '98, struck the death blow to that mighty monster of tyranny.

We were not prepared to see an attempt made, at this time, to revive the most odious features of that law, and that too, by a party who have attempted to falsify the history of that day to listen an advocacy of it upon Gen. Harrison. But in this we were mistaken. To such a height of bold usurpation and daring defiance to public sentiment has the President and his party gone, that they seem determined to subject every thing to their will, and impudently to defy the opinions of the people. By the report of the Secretary of War and the recommendation of Mr. Van Buren, the *Standing Army*, which they propose, is to consist of 20,000 men. These are to be taken from districts, in the several portions of the Union. Citizens of twenty and under that of forty-five years will be required to enroll, and furnish themselves, at their own expense, with arms, &c.—twenty-five thousand leaving the service each year, and passing into a reserve, and the same number of "fresh recruits" taking their place. Of this army, every non-commissioned officer or private who shall disobey the orders of the President shall be "imprisoned, on failure of the payment of the fines adjudged against them, for one calendar month, for every five dollars of such fine." From this provision, no citizen, within the proper age, will be exempt. But this is not the most odious and alarming feature of the project. It proposes a direct revival of the "gag law." The bill reported by Mr. Poinsett, contains a provision that when the militia are in active service for training or otherwise, they shall be subjected to the articles of war. The 5th sections of those articles is as follows:

"Art. 5 Any officer or soldier, who shall use contemptuous or disrespectful words against the President of the United States, against the Vice President thereof, against the Congress of the United States, or against the Chief Magistrate of any of the United States in which they may be quartered; if a commissioned officer, shall be cashiered or otherwise punished, as a court martial shall direct; if a non-commissioned officer or soldier, he shall suffer such punishment as shall be inflicted on him by the sentence of a court martial."

In what does this provision differ from the *Sedition Law* of John Adams's administration? Is it not a positive revival of those principles which, in that law, were so strongly condemned? That act provided:

"Sec. 2. That if any person shall write, print, utter or publish, or shall cause or procure to be written, printed, uttered or pub-

lished, or shall knowingly and willingly, assist or aid in writing, printing, uttering or publishing any false, scandalous and malicious writing or writings, against the Government of the United States, or either House of the Congress of the United States, or the President of the United States, with intent to defame the said Government, or either House of the said Congress, or the said President, or to bring them or either of them into contempt or disrepute,—or to excite against them or either of them, the hatred of the good people of the United States, or to excite any unlawful combinations there, in, for opposing or resisting any law of the United States, or any act of the President of the United States, &c.—then such person, being thereof convicted, before any court of the United States having jurisdiction thereof, shall be punished by a fine not exceeding two thousand dollars, and by imprisonment not exceeding two years."

Let the independent and patriotic American freeman, who can appreciate his proud position, read and reflect upon these two sections. Let him study and contrast them, and while he will find that the sedition law was only intended to reach those who wrote against Congress, the Government, or the President, he will see that he is now to be forbidden, by the act of a party claiming to be democratic, the use of "contemptuous or disrespectful words" against the President, Vice President, Congress, or the Chief Magistrate of any State! Are the people of this country prepared for this alarming innovation upon their rights? Is not this a government of their own?—subject to their own will and direction? Will they fold their arms in apathy, when an attempt is made so reckless as this—to compel them into the service of the President, and take from them the right to speak as they please of their government and its officers? In vain may it be said, that this is not a Standing Army. To all intents and purposes it contains all the essentials of that most alarming institution. It is the subjection of 200,000 men to Presidential dictation—subject to be called into service at his command, and whose mouths are sealed, in regard to the very act by which they are disfranchised and made slaves! Let the people of this Union, assent to this proposition, and from that hour their bondage will begin. The issue is now fairly before them. The President himself has presented it and his party have approved it. Let it be met—boldly and fearlessly met. It is the effort of a tyrant to establish a tyranny. It is a daring attempt to shut the mouths of the nation, and make us slaves. Let the people speak out and cause these rulers to tremble in their high places, and convince the world that they are still free, and that the blood of their revolutionary fathers yet flows through their veins.

From the Pilot.

High-Handed Measure.

After what we have seen of the efforts made by Mr. Kendall to enlist the Post Office Department and all its agents to circulate the *Globe*, we are not surprised to see the attempt now making to arrest all other means of distributing public documents. It is not enough that the whole Post Office Department has been converted into one vast electioneering machine—all persons whatever are to be found if they attempt by any other means to circulate any printed paper! Indeed, this is the madness of party!—what will not come next?

In England, newspapers are sent free of postage. Here, they are not only to be taxed at the highest rate, but the steamboats and railroad companies are to be fined, if they lend their aid in circulating opposition newspapers!

We must have a Standing Army of 200,000 men, under the rules and articles of war, liable to be dealt with and punished by a Court Martial, if they dare to utter a word of complaint against the President! The Purse and the Sword are to be given up, and now we are to be punished, if we dare to send our newspapers by any other conveyance than through Kendall's deputies!

But read, freemen read—and prepare for voting.

TWENTY SIXTH CONGRESS—
Session. SENATE DEC. 380.
In the Senate of the United States.
June 26, 1840.

Agreeably to notice, Mr. Robinson asked and obtained leave to bring in the following bill, which was read twice, and referred to the Committee on the Post Office and Roads.

June 26 1840.—Reported without amendment.

A BILL

Amendatory of several acts establishing and regulating the post Office Department.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the U.S. of America in Congress assembled, That it shall not be lawful for any stage, railroad car, or other vehicle, which regularly performs trips on any post road or on a road parallel to it, to convey let-

ters or packets containing any written or printed piece of paper, nor shall it be lawful, without the authority and consent of the Postmaster General, for any steamboat, packetboat, or other vessel, that regularly plies on any water declared to be a post road, to convey any letter or packet, except such as relate to some parts of the cargo. And for every violation of the provisions of this section, the owner of the carriage or other vehicle, boat or vessel, and the corporation or other proprietors of the railroad over which such car may be conveyed, shall incur a penalty of fifty dollars. And the person who has charge of such carriage, railroad car, or other vehicle, packetboat, steamboat, or vessel, may be prosecuted for a violation of this provision, and the property in his charge may be levied on and sold in satisfaction of the penalty and costs of suit.

Sec. 2. And be it further enacted, That no person, other than the Postmaster General, or his authorized agents, shall set up any foot, horse, or stage post, for the conveyance of any letters or packet, upon any post road which is or may be established as such by law; nor shall it be lawful for any post, express, or common carrier, not authorized by the postmaster General, passing in car over any rail road, or in steamboats, packetboats, or other vessels over any water declared to be a post road, to carry any letters or packets; nor shall it be lawful for any passenger or other person, passing over any railroad, or in a steamboat over any water declared to be a post road, to convey any letter or sealed packet, for which he shall receive any compensation for carrying the same. And every person who shall offend herein, shall, for each offence, incur a penalty not exceeding fifty dollars. Provided, That it shall be lawful for any one to send letters or packets by special messenger; And provided also, That this act shall not apply to any steamboat or vessel, or any person on board thereof, coming from any port in any foreign country into any port or place in the United States.

Speaking of Amos Kendall Gen. Green says:

"Is there an honest heart that will not recoil from the foul columns of this pensioned and practised slanderer? If after having humbled poor South Carolina, and compelled her, in more than Christian meekness, to pension the hand that smote her, he can frighten the whole south, with the cry of abolition against Gen. Harrison, who almost alone from the slave-holding States, asserted the rights of the south, on the Missouri question, and should prevail on the people of the southern States to give their votes to Mr. Van Buren, who voted to instruct the Senators and Representatives from New York, to vote against the admission of Missouri, and in the convention of his own State, voted to give the right of suffrage to negroes, having a free hold of two hundred and fifty dollars, while he voted against extending the same right to poor white men, even the grey haired father of the revolution; and who has, in his capacity of the President, approved of the principle that negroes are competent witnesses against officers of the navy then shall I despair of the republic and be prepared to surrender the struggle for liberty."

ENGLISH LYNCH LAW.—The Liverpool Albion tells of a lynching affair which came off on board the American ship *Victoria*, when about to clear out of the Liverpool docks. A dispute occurred among the owners of the vessel, two of whom reside in Liverpool, and one of them in Charleston, S. C. The captain was about to clear, in pursuance of orders he had received from the American owner; the English owners were for preventing him. One of them with 70 men boarded the ship, attacked the captain and crew, drove them off, and cut down the sails. The captain and his crew again got possession of the ship; they were reinforced by the mates of several American ships in port, who sewed up the sails and again prepared the *Victoria* for sea. Again the forces of the owner assembled in large numbers, prepared with grapppling irons and other gear to prevent the ship going to sea; but the captain applied to the authorities who furnished him with a guard of fifty armed police, under the protection of whom he got his ship out and himself clear from English lynch law.

Picayune.

From the Memphis Enquirer.

We have said that we expected Amos was getting along well in getting in the dollars. Some twenty or thirty thousand, we understand, have been made up already for the support of the root land speculation. We should not be surprised if three times that number "forked over" before November. Every Postmaster in the land has been appealed to and has received his orders. Every office holder, as in duty bound, is busy in raising contributions to pay the manager of

the "Infernal Machine" for his labors. Amos, however, found one office holder whose notions of "duty" happened not to square with his own. The difference between them will be found in the subjoined.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Letter from Amos Kendall to the Post Master at Goodwynsville, Va.

WASHINGTON, May 28th, 1840.

My dear sir—I take the liberty to enclose you an Address and Prospectus for the *Extra Globe*, hoping that it may be compatible with your inclination and sense of duty to use them for the purpose of procuring and returning subscribers.

If in that hope I shall be disappointed, I solicit of you the personal favor to hand it over to some friend of the Administration who may be inclined to use it for that purpose.

With great respect, your friend,
AMOS KENDALL.

Mr. Edwards Reply.

Goodwynsville, Va.

MR. AMOS KENDALL:

Sir—Your letter and circular came safely by mail, free of postage—and that I may not be censured, I have concluded to return you your circular, that you may have the opportunity of sending it by mail, and of course free, to some other man, who possibly may consider it an honor to join in slandering and traducing for individual gain, the private character of William Henry Harrison, who only captured a British army to entitle him (in your elegant language) to the appellation of a *mock hero*. You state that the slumbers of your children are disturbed by the firing of Whig guns. I believe that the same thing happened once or twice before. The enemies of America have always had a peculiar dread of Whig guns. But, sir, I take great pleasure to inform you, and through you, Mr. Van Buren, that he may take his rest so far as regards my children. They are not so easily frightened by gunpowder, though they feel very indignant at Mr. Poinsett's militia scheme, which His Excellency recommended, though he never saw it. The commission which I hold, if Mr. Van Buren thinks it is a security for a vote, I herewith inform him, through you, is at his call; and it gives me more pleasure to offer it than the honor of retaining it could confer. I have come to the conclusion that America does not entirely depend upon the election of any one man as President, though I am not so very certain that your pension is so free from its dependence on the re-election of Mr. Van Buren.

You state that Gen. Harrison is, in your classical language, a tongueless candidate. I have never seen the gentleman—therefore you and Mr. Van Buren, of course know more of him than I do. I wish you to get Mr. Van Buren, who has a tongue, to answer the following questions: Did you not vote to instruct Rufus King to oppose the admission of slavery in Missouri? Did you not vote against James Madison in 1812? Did you not vote for the Tariff of 1828? Did you never see or hear of Mr. Poinsett's army project until it was called for by a resolution of Congress? And will you not endeavor to have that project carried into effect, if you are re-elected? Did you not sanction the admission of negro testimony, in Lieut. George M. Hooe's trial before a naval court martial? I hope, my dear sir, that you and the President, whom I take to be one and the same in fact, will loosen your tongues, and inform your friend, as you style me in your letter. You know that the People are not quite ready for a Monarch, and a little edification is still necessary to be used, in order to reconcile them to their lots. Some, I suppose, will feel highly honored to be appointed cradle-minders for your dear children! Sweet babes! lie still and slumber. Democrats guard thy heads, and Treasury pap, without number, fall thickly around thy bed? I am at a loss to name a person in this county who is willing to act as cradle nurse for your nervous offspring. Tell Dr. Niles that I owe him an apology; but as he is solely dependant on you for his bread, and permit me add, office, that whenever you shall have selected my successor, I am ready to resign. With something short of respect,

I subscribe myself,

JOHN H. EDWARDS, P. M.
At Goodwynsville, Va.

Meeting in Alexandria.

The Alexandria Gazette states that a large and highly respectable Town Meeting was held in that city on the 8th inst. in relation to late refusal of Congress to charter any Bank within the District of Columbia, and in favor of the retrocession of that part of the District to the State of Virginia. The Mayor presided, and a number of spirited resolutions were adopted.

THE BANKRUPT BILL.

Which passed the Senate after so much laborious discussion of its principles and its details, has received its first and second readings as a matter of course, and then, on the motion of Mr. PICKENS, was ordered to lie on the table, until it be dead! dead! dead!

We shall here no more of it at this Session.

It is superfluous to say that we regret the fate of this measure. The only consoling reflection in the case is, that much has been done by the agitation of the question now, towards awakening the public mind to a sense of the justice and humanity of the measure proposed, and that at a future Session of Congress it may hope to meet a different fate.

The vote upon it, our readers will perceive, was not altogether a party vote though a large majority of the Whigs voted, in favor of considering the bill, and equally strong majority of their opponents against it. Although nearly fifty Members were absent from the vote (most of whom are absent from the city) it is not believed that the bill would have gained anything if all the Members had been present.

From the Louisville Journal.

"We oppose Mr. Van Buren," say the Whigs, "because, among other things, he has dared, in a time of peace, to recommend the creation and permanent maintenance of a standing army of 100,000 men." But, reply the locofoco organs, "Gen. Harrison once recommended a similar standing army." The charge against Mr. Van Buren is an undeniable and a startling truth; that against Gen. Harrison is an unmitigated and atrocious calumny is well exposed in the following paragraph from the Cincinnati Republican:

The standing Army Provision.

In their desperate efforts to bolster up the falling administration, its partisans are driven to the employment of artifices, the exposure of which must waken, as much as it disgraces, their cause. Of this character is the charge against Gen. Harrison, that forty years ago, he made a speech in Congress in favor of a standing army. What standing army was this, against the disbanding of which he made the speech in question? It was an army raised in anticipation of a war with France, "when the late measure, (in the language of the late Gen. Smith, of Maryland) was thought to be so essential a feature of our defence, that there were but a dozen members who voted against it." And how long was this army to stand? The law expires, (said the same authority,) whenever the difference between France and America are made up." And then this army by the terms of the law, creating it, was to go out of existence. But before "difficulties with France" were adjusted, a proposition was made to disband this force, without making the provision of a single shilling to carry the men home. This proposition Gen. Harrison spoke against, as illtimed and inexpedient, and Gen. Smith with other democrats of the day good and true, both spoke and voted against it, upon the same grounds.

And now this opposition to the premature disbanding of an army of 33,999 men, until they were disbanded by the terms of the act under which they were enlisted, is distorted into General Harrison's being in favor of a standing army, and the distortion is relied upon as a set-off against the *bona fide* standing army, of indefinite duration, (which is the essence of a standing army) recommended by the President, of 100,000 men!

What a resemblance there is between the two cases!

DANCING.—An ingenious Frenchman has discovered that a young lady who attends the Parisian saloons regularly, dances four hundred miles in the course of a season; and that the modest matron, in waltzing, turns around as often as the wheels of a steamboat in a trip between Calais and Dover.

Picayune.

COM. ELLIOTT.

The Philadelphia National Gazette says—We learn that the sentence of the Court Martial, which recently tried Commodore Elliott in this city on sundry charges, is suspension from his functions for four years, and withholding of his pay for two years. Whether the President has approved of the sentence and on what charges it is founded, we have not heard,—but as far as we state, our information is positive.

Deserters still continue to "make tracks" from the British army in Canada. On the 15th June eight, who had left the 56th regiment, stationed at Sorel, were arrested at Abbotford by some of the cavalry.—Pic.

QUITE A CROWD.—There was a Harrison gathering at Burlington, Vt., recently consisting of about 25,000 Green Mountain boys.—Pic.

Is Harker